

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 131

By Johnson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Kelly Felix on winning his third State title at the TSSAA State Wrestling Tournament in February of 2007.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those gifted student-athletes, who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of our State; and

WHEREAS, Kelly Felix , a senior at Franklin High School, is one such noteworthy athlete who recently attained an unparalleled measure of athletic success when he captured the Tennessee Secondary Schools Academic Association (TSSAA) State Wrestling Tournament's 145-pound title on February 16, 2007; and

WHEREAS, with roots tracing back to the ancient Greeks and the early Olympics, wrestling is a most demanding sport, and Mr. Felix has proved himself to be a remarkable wrestler and a valuable team player who pinned every opponent he faced in the state tournament, a level of success rarely seen in the sport of wrestling; and

WHEREAS, this tremendous champion drew strength from the support of his teammates, and he received vital encouragement from his coach, Charles Gillespie; and

WHEREAS, this most recent state championship marks Mr. Felix's third state title, and further marks the culmination of a spectacular high school career; after placing second in the state tournament as a freshman, Kelly garnered the state championship crown as a sophomore, junior, and senior; and

WHEREAS, during his four-year high school career, Kelly Felix compiled an astounding record of 165 wins to only three losses, two of which came at the hands of state champion wrestlers; and

WHEREAS, as a junior and senior, Mr. Felix was perfect in the 145-pound class, an impressive run which includes forty-five-wins during his senior season; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his state championship, Kelly Felix also garnered two Division I Outstanding Wrestler awards in recognition of his acumen and ability during his junior and senior seasons; and

WHEREAS, following his capture of the 2006 TSSAA state championship, Kelly drew upon his competitive spirit and unsurpassed ability to win the 145-pound championship at the National Juniors Championships in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and will soon defend his national title at the national championships in Virginia Beach, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Felix has committed to the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where he will come under the astute tutelage of Moccasins coach Chris Bono, a former National Collegiate Athletics Association champion; if he continues to exhibit the unwavering dedication and desire for success which has served him so well thus far, Kelly Felix promises to add further accolades to a career already marked by greatness; and

WHEREAS, Kelly Felix epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are vital in achieving success and that are also characteristic of a true Tennessean; the talent and determination exhibited by this young man surely bode well for his future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Felix's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Kelly Felix on winning his third consecutive TSSAA State Wrestling Championship in the 145-pound category, applaud his impressive high school wrestling career, and join with his family, friends, coaches, and teammates in celebrating his achievements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend to him our best wishes for every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

